

Gentlemen:

When the issue of "Common Core" was being introduced I was fortunate enough to attend a local "Town Meeting" held by Senator Jason Welch and Representative Witt Betts, and a part of the agenda included a discussion in this subject. At that time I asked that our State take careful steps as when it come to the evaluation of the teachers. My reasoning was that a measure that was too strict would end up being a deterrent to encouraging bright high school students from entering the teaching vocation. At that time I estimated we could see a downturn in enrollments for teaching academics in 5 to 10 years. The consequences of this could costly as Connecticut would likely face a shortage of new teachers.

Well, it would seem that my warning was an omen of things to come. From the articles I have read, mostly printed in the Hartford Courant, there is a lot of concern with regard to the implementation and training for "Common Core" combined with the new teacher evaluation system. Teachers are upset, and appears they have good reason. If our current teaching staff is depressed, what effect will that have on future teachers. I can only imagine the worst.

All I ask is that "common sense" approach be used when considering any new legislation on the subject of "Common Core" and teacher evaluations.

Best regards,
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